135. The necessity for raising the Lower Grade Secondary School at Neyyattinkara to a Higher Grade Secondary School.

Revd. Samuel Sumanam (Member, T. I. C., Neyyattinkara) pointed out that the taluk of Neyyattinkara was extensive and thickly populated and contained several elementary schools. The only two secondary schools in the taluk were the one in the town and the other at Kanjirankulam. The school at the latter place was under private management. Both the schools were only Lower Grade Secondary Schools. Every year about 25 to 30 students passed out of the Third Form standard from the two schools and the difficulty of those students was to prosecute their higher studies. They had necessarily to go outside the taluk for the purpose, and in the case of boys who passed the above standard, their youth and experience deterred their parents from sending them to distant places. In view of the very large number of students in the taluk, the Member suggested that, by way of encouragement to them, the Government should raise the standard of the existing Departmental English School to a Higher Grade Secondary School. Such a school would be of immense advantage not only to the taluk in question but also to other taluks in the neighbourhood. He also said that the subject was brought forward in the previous sessions of the Assembly and that the importance of the subject had persuaded him to press the matter once again. He added that the standard of the School might be raised gradually by sanctioning one higher class every year. He then proceeded to consider the staff, appliances etc., required for the higher standards proposed by him and the expenditure to be incurred on account of the same, and said that the Government would not have to spend much by the adoption of his proposal. He therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to consider the proposal favourably and sanction the opening of the Fourth Form at Neyyattinkara with effect from the commencement of the next academic year.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

136. Establishment of a Lower Grade Secondary School at Vallakadavu at Trivandrum.

Mr. L. H. Netto (Member, Nominated) said that Vallakadavu was the centre of a large thriving population and would become commercially important with the completion of the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway. The children of the place had to walk 2 and 3 miles to go to the English Schools situated in the heart of the town. An English School at Vallakadavu was a serious desideratum and the Member requested that a Lower Grade Secondary School might be established there at an early date.

Dewan's reply—Noted.

137. The establishment of a Secondary School at Warkalai.

Mr. G. Ramakrishna Kurup (Member, Chirayinkil taluk) stated that the want of an English School at Warkalai was seriously felt by the school-going children. Warkalai had only Vernacular Schools and students had to leave their studies after their course in the Elementary Schools on account of the absence of English Schools in the place and also on account of the unwillingness of parents to send the boys far away from homes to prosecute their studies. The Member therefore requested that a Secondary School be established at Warkalai.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

138. The need for raising the standard of the L. G. S. School at Kottarakara to that of a H. G. S. School.

Mr. C. P. Kochukunju Pillai (Member, Kottarakara taluk) said that the L. G. S. School at Kottarakara had been 41 years in existence. The necessity for a Higher Grade School at the place was recognised by the Government so far back as 1086, but still it was unfortunate that action had not been taken to give effect to the order of the Government. If only the Government would sanction the addition of the Fourth Form with the beginning of the next school year, the people would be ready to construct the building necessary for it.

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Dewan.—I shall consider your representation. But was there not a proposal from the Mar Thoma Syrian Christians of the place to start and conduct a Higher Grade School?

The Member said that he would only answer that the Mission authorities would not be able to conduct a H. G. S. School. He requested the kind and sympathetic consideration of the Government to the repeated prayer of the taluk representatives.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

139. Educational needs of the Shencotta taluk.

Mr. S. Subramonia Karayalar, B. A. (Member, Shencotta taluk) quoted statistics to show that the state of education was very backward in the taluk. The percentage of school-going population was low as compared with other taluks, both in the English and in the Vernacular Schools. The parents were unwilling to send their children for higher English education to distant places such as Quilon or Tinnevelly. He therefore requested that the L. G. S. School be raised to the standard of a Higher Grade Secondary School.

The people were grateful to the Government for introducing Tamil into the Vernacular Schools, but the authorities were arranging to stop the teaching of Malayalam in those schools. Though Tamil was indispensable to the people of the taluk, they had to acquire a fair knowlege of Malayalam also. He suggested that arrangements might be made to teach the boys Malayalam after a two or three years' course in Tamil.

Dewan.—Will it do if Tamil and Malayalam be taught simultaneously from the lowest class?

Member.—Yes, Sir.

Dewan.—Is it necessary to continue Malayalam till the highest class?

Member.—Not necessary. Malayalam can be stopped after the Third Class.

The Member next referred to the want of a L. G. S. School for girls at Shencotta. Out of 1314 girls of school-going age, not one had gone in for secondary education, owing to want of facilities for it. He requested that the standard of the local Elementary School itself might be raised and English arranged to be taught in the highest class. He added that only women teachers should be appointed in Girls' Schools.

Dewan's reply.— The policy of the Government is to have as far as possible only women teachers in Girls' Schools and that policy will be steadily kept in view. But the difficulty is to get a sufficient number of women teachers. The representations of the Member are noted.

140. The desirability of raising the Lower Grade Secondary School at Haripad to a Higher Grade Secondary School.

Mr. S. Subramonia Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Haripad) said that the subject was one that was pressed on the attention of the Government at the last session of the Assembly. There was a few years ago a Higher Grade Secondary School at Haripad under private management but it had to close its doors on the rigorous enforcement of the provisions of the Education Code. The necessity for a Higher Grade School was proved during the existence of the defunct school and the want was still keenly felt. The proprietors of the defunct school would be willing to hand over to the Government the appliances at their disposal and even place the school-house at the disposal of the latter for the purpose of starting a Higher Grade School. He therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to sanction the local Lower Grade Secondary School being raised to the Higher Grade.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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